

From: Daryl Bjerke
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/7/01 10:04am
Subject: My opinion of the Microsoft settlement.

I would like to voice my opinion of the settlement that I heard. I heard that Microsoft would have to donate software, hardware and services to schools. At first I thought this was a good thing since I am in the education setting. Then I got to thinking that my first reaction is wrong. First, by forcing them to donate software, something that costs pennies on the dollar, it doesn't hurt them at all. Second, it is just pumping more Microsoft into the education division and further helping out the Monopoly. Now let me state that my school is a mixed environment. I have about 70% Microsoft Windows computers, 30% Apple and I personally like Microsoft computers better, but I still feel that forcing them into the education market only benefits them. In my opinion, it would be far worse for Microsoft at this case to simple have the DOJ drop the entire case.

I would like to see Microsoft donate the money, ACTUAL MONEY, to the schools to be used for technology however they see. It could be Microsoft hardware or software, but it could also be Apple products, Linux products, etc. That would be a fair solution for all, except for Microsoft, because it would actually be a punishment instead of allowing them to make a circus of the DOJ and reaping the benefits of a gift horse.

Thank you for your time.

Daryl Bjerke
dbjerke@bemidji.k12.mn.us
Computer and Network Specialist
Bemidji High School
Bemidji, MN USA
(218)444-1600 ext 3314

"Out the token ring, through the router, down the fiber, off a switch, past the firewall, down the T1 ... nothing but Net."